

### (1) Trump's Action...

"Our demand is that policymakers in the United States review the decision and defy it," said Ezidiyar.

"The move has hurt the sentiments of the entire Muslim world, it has also endangered global peace and stability," said senator Lailuma Ahmadi.

Trump on Wednesday reversed decades of U.S. policy and by recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, imperiled Middle East peace efforts.

Trump also directed the US government to make arrangements for the relocation of US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. (Tolonews)

### (2) Govt., Partners, ...

higher than the average world consumption.

"This project is of critical importance," said USAID Health Office Director in Afghanistan, William Slater. "Many people in Afghanistan suffer from micronutrient deficiencies and to focus on increasing access to fortified foods, is an effective approach to combating malnutrition."

The USAID, GAIN, and MoPH partnership helped reduce taxes on premix imports from 32 percent to 2 percent, enhanced the capacity of the Ministry of Public Health central food laboratory, and facilitated the endorsement of Afghanistan's food fortification regulation, which now makes food fortification mandatory.

"Micronutrient fortification of staple food is one of the most effective ways to prevent micronutrient malnutrition", said Greg Garrett, Director of Large Scale Food Fortification at GAIN. "In the past two years, USAID, GAIN, and the Government of Afghanistan worked together through an agreed action plan to advance the food fortification agenda, through advocacy efforts, legislation and private sector participation, as well as increasing demand for fortified food in the Afghanistan market." (PR)

### (3) UNAMA Welcomes ...

The UN envoy also expressed congratulations to Afghanistan for the country's new Penal Code as a milestone in Afghanistan's criminal justice reform and a positive impetus for the further transformation of Afghan society.

"The protection of human rights relies on laws that not only reflect the state of the society but also shape it toward a better future where the most vulnerable are better shielded from abuse," he said. "It is my conviction that the provisions of the new Penal Code will contribute significantly to such progress."

At the Kabul event, the UN envoy also spoke about the fundamental right of Afghan women to participate fully in next year's elections. "The United Nations will work diligently to ensure that women can take part in the elections as voters, campaigners, electoral officials and candidates," he said.

On 10 December each year, at the conclusion 16 days of activities aimed at raising awareness about ending violence against women, the United Nations observes Human Rights Day around the world by recognizing achievements made since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights after the trauma of the Second World War.

As a result of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the dignity of millions has been uplifted, untold human suffering prevented and the foundations for a most just world were laid. While its promise is yet to be fulfilled globally and in Afghanistan, the fact that it has stood the test of time is testament to the enduring universality of its perennial values of equality, justice and human dignity. (PR)

### (4) Self-Governing...

called on the Afghan political parties to participate in the elections and confirm their share in the government through the ballots.

Hekmatyar insisted that the next elections in the country must be transparent and fair, adding that certain circles in the country do not want the elections to be held on time.

"Elections must be held on time and be transparent. Some circles fear the elections because they do not have the confidence of the people. Such people have taken on their positions by using their power, so they don't want the elections to be held," said Hekmatyar.

He also opposed any possible change in the structure of the Independent Election Commission (IEC), saying such a move would lead to the delay of the elections.

"Our demand is that there should not be changed in the structure of the electoral commission. We will not allow them to delay the elections," he said.

Hekmatyar called on the government to ensure the participation of Afghan refugees abroad in the elections, including those living in the insecure regions of the country.

He also touched on the deprivations of the Zadran tribe. The suffering of the tribe is because Jalaluddin Haqqani, the founder of Haqqani network, is a member of the Zadran tribe and is fighting against the US. (Tolonews)

### (5) Energy, Road ...

security organs.

Ghani directed security and defense officials to continue efforts for keeping the militants at bay and ensure people's safety and implementation of infrastructure projects in the province.

During his meeting with the governor and other senior officials, Ghani said: "Energy and road construction plans' implementation would change the face of Badghis province."

"We would see major changes in Badghis over the next two years," the president hoped, saying balanced development needed public support. Local officials should listen to public complaints and find solutions to their problems.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Al Islami, director of Islamic and Hajj affairs, welcomed the president's trip to Badghis and said completion of work on the Qaisar-Laman ring road was a major demand of the people. (Pajhwok)

### (6) Gen. Yaftali ...

quoted him as saying that war and insecurity --inherently contagious -- did not remain confined to a certain geography or region.

Gen. Yaftali argued defeating terrorism in Afghanistan could contain the risk of menace spreading to other parts of the region. Stability in the region and the world was directly linked to peace Afghanistan, he said.

He hailed burgeoning Kabul-Delhi defence cooperation, including training of the Afghan security personnel. India's developmental assistance programme for Afghanistan stands at around \$2 billion. (Pajhwok)

### (7) Counternarcotics ...

of the Kabul-Bamyan highway security unit, and one other individual involved in selling a Russian military tank had also been referred to the attorney office.

"These two individuals wanted to sell an old Russian tank after cutting it into pieces," the crime branch head said.

Some days back, Ali Babak, a senior Bamyan police officer, and Bahman, an intelligence agent, were also detained on moral corruption charges.

Locals said that Abdul Haq, senior education supervisor for Seghan district, was nabbed in a moral corruption case. However, he was released after paying 350,000 afghanis in bribe.

However, the crime branch chief promised he would investigate the issue and arrest both parties if the bribery allegation was substantiated. (Pajhwok)

### (8) Arab Ministers ...

had no legal impact and was "void", the Arab League said in a statement after a session attended by all its members in Cairo.

Trump's endorsement of Israel's claim to all of Jerusalem as its capital would reverse long-standing US policy that the city's status must be decided in negotiations with the Palestinians, who want East Jerusalem as the capital of their future state.

"The decision has no legal basis ... it deepens tension, ignites anger and threatens to plunge region into more violence and chaos," the Arab League said at 3 a.m. local time after hours of meetings that began on Saturday evening.

It said it would seek a UN Security Council resolution rejecting the US move.

Lebanon's Foreign Minister, Gebran Bassil, said during the emergency meeting that Arab nations should consider imposing economic sanctions against the United States to prevent it moving its Israel embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv.

"Pre-emptive measures (must be) taken ... beginning with diplomatic measures, then political, then economic and financial sanctions," he said, without giving specific details.

The Arab League statement made no mention of economic sanctions.

Arab criticism of Trump's plan contrasted sharply with the praise Washington's traditional Arab allies heaped on him at the beginning of his administration in January. (Tolonews)

### (9) No Obstacle to ...

said all parties to the Afghan conflict had suffered, but who suffered the most were women, still witnessing war. "All people of the country are now fed up and they want an end to the war and a lasting peace and stability."

"Doors are open for anyone who wants to reach their goals through negotiations and the Afghan government has set no precondition for initiating peace talks; however, peace and negotiations also doesn't mean sacrificing people."

Earlier, the High Peace Council has extended an olive branch to the Taliban, saying it is ready for talks under whatever mechanism the insurgents want.

About violence against women, Abdullah said: "In the face of these harsh conditions, today women are demonstrating their talent in all spheres, including knowledge, art, sports, and economy."

He said wherever women had been given the opportunity, they had discharged their duty with sincerity and transparency. He termed women's situation in provinces as challenging and hoped the Independent

Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG) would take steps as part of government's commitments to paving the ground for women's participation in local organizations.

Acknowledging some hurdles to women's participation in local institutions, Abdullah said: "Political considerations will not be an obstacle for eligible women's opportunities and we are committed to this and we will discharge our responsibility in this regard." (Pajhwok)

### (10) Terrorism on the ...

solve the problem of drug smuggling.

"Afghanistan expects that along with NATO forces present in the country, the states of the region, especially Russia, will provide it with the technical, financial and political support in combating drug trafficking and terrorism," the parliamentarian said.

"The government of Afghanistan and we, as its representatives will try to create favorable conditions for the activities of the Russian Federation in Afghanistan. We expect that Russia will also cooperate with us in this field," Sami added.

The views and opinions expressed by Mohammad Feisal Sami are those of the speaker and do not necessarily reflect those of Sputnik. (Sputnik)

### (11) 42 Pardoned...

and four bathrooms and work on it would be completed in one month.

Weesa said the building would cost \$45,000 provided by UNDP.

Although the Kandahar Jail is built for 900 individuals, but as many as 1,915 inmates are currently held inside it. Of them 27 are women. (Pajhwok)

### (12) Thousands Protest ...

"The Mujahid nation of Afghanistan condemns the illegal and unfair decision of Trump. Baitul Muqaddis is our first qibla and an insult of the qibla means the insult of the whole of Muslims."

He asked the Muslims across the world to stand united against the infidel world and resist the American decision.

Alokozai thanked President Ghani for slamming the US decision on behalf of the Afghanistan government and people and praised the Afghan security forces for their sacrifices in the defense of the country.

In eastern Nangarhar provinces, hundreds of seminary students staged a protest against the US recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

The students from Najmul Madaris blocked the ring road against passengers on the Kabul-Torkham road in Behsud district.

They denounced Trump decision as unjust and unilateral and asked the Afghan government to cut off diplomatic ties with the US.

The angry mob also torched an effigy of President Trump and chanted "death to Trump, death to US and Israel."

In northern Faryab province, religious scholars addressed thousands of people protesting against the US decision of recognizing Jerusalem as Israeli capital.

In their speeches, the clerics slammed the US decision as against international laws and insult to the Muslim world.

They asked the Afghan government to suspend ties with the US until the country reversed its decision of recognizing the contested city as Israel's capital. (Pajhwok)

### (13) French, Algerian ...

to have been in Syria and Iraq. Dawar said, suggesting they may link Islamic State-Khorasan Province (IS-K), the group's franchise in Afghanistan and Pakistan, with the main group in the Middle East.

When it first emerged in 2015, Daesh overran large parts of eastern Nangarhar and Kunar provinces, though initially its part in the Afghan conflict was overshadowed by the Taliban.

The jihadists have since spread north, including in Jawzjan on the border with Uzbekistan, and carried out multiple devastating attacks in the capital Kabul.

Mohammad Raza Ghafoori, the Jowzjan provincial governor's spokesman, said French-speaking Caucasian men and women had been seen training Daesh fighters in Darzab.

He cited reports saying that around 50 children, some as young as 10, have also been recruited by the fighters.

Darzab residents told AFP that roughly 200 foreigners had set up camp just a few hundred meters from the village of Bibi Mariam, according to the report.

However, the government officially has not yet commented on the report. (Tolonews)

### (14) Domestic ...

and milk daily, say employees.

"Last year, the market for our products was less, but this year it is good, it is improving," a technical employee of the factory Ali Reza said.

The owner of Omid Bahar factory, Abdul Rahman, said this year they were able to change thousands of tons of fruits to powder and then use the powders for making juice.

Abdul Rahman said they are trying to export 17 types of juice to the Indian and Central Asian markets.

"At the first step, we have exports to

India. We have sent some products to Pakistan in order to get feedback from them. We have the capacity of producing 200,000 juice every day. It is high for Afghanistan, we should start exporting our products (to other countries)," said Abdul Rahman.

Currently, over 150 people work in the Omid Bahar factory and if the factory's activities are expanded, more people will be hired.

"We will not have to migrate to other countries for work if there are factories like this in Afghanistan," Reshad, an employee of the factory said. (Tolonews)

### (15) 25 Couples ...

I was unable to celebrate it due to the high cost of the ceremony. I was facing a lot of financial problems at home," said Hussain.

"We are happy with our lives, I want to complete the challenges ahead with my husband," said Hussain's bride Rabia.

"With the help of this initiative we want to strengthen the culture of mass weddings and persuade the charity organizations and the business community to contribute in the initiative," said Azimulhaq Azimi, head of Balkh youth affairs department

Each couple was paid 35,000 Afs in cash to buy their home necessities. (Tolonews)

### (16) In Nangarhar, ...

some individuals, no steps have been taken so far to recover large areas of government-owned land.

In the past two years, Nangarhar courts have received 97 criminal cases but none of them is related to land-grabbers, despite the fact that thousands of acres of government land has been usurped.

According to a report, around 150,000 acres of state land has been occupied illegally in Nangarhar, with some grabbers involved in usurping thousands of acres of public properties.

The report says 137,928 acres of land has been grabbed by 1,106 people in Lalpura, Momand Dara, Kot, Ghanikhel, Haska Mina, Kama, Dur Baba, Surkhrod, Chaparhar, Hesarak and other dist.

The local administration claims arresting hundreds of land-grabbers and recovering large areas of government properties. But ordinary people say big land-grabbers were still at large and none of the detainees had unlawfully seized for shelter even half an acre.

Public criticism and concerns Provincial Council Secretary Zabihullah Zmarai called the action taken over land-grab as symbolic. Officials even did not knock at the door of big grabbers, he said.

Zmarai told Pajhwok Afghan News the symbolic campaigns led to the arrest of only those who had grabbed less than half an acre of land to build houses for themselves.

Another provincial council member, Syed Mehdi Pacha, also dismissed the local administration's moves on the issue as cosmetic measures. He blasted the Nangarhar administration for initiating no steps to enforce Ghani's instructions.

Mohammad Anwar Sultani, a civil society activist, questioned effectiveness of the campaigns conducted by provincial authorities. He said only poor and helpless people were detained while those who had grabbed hundreds of acres of land were still at large.

He said that provincial officials with land mafia at usurping public and private properties.

A tribal elder, Malak Shah Zaman, accused four influential families of being involved in land-grab, kidnaps, drug-trafficking and other security incidents in Nangarhar. He said organs countering these problems were influenced by the four families.

"A number of former commanders, powerful figures and officials are members of land mafia, supporting other grabbers. But no one has tried to stop them," he said.

Local administration Nangarhar governor's spokesman, Attaullah Khogyani, told Pajhwok that a special commission was created for the prevention of land grabbing in the province following the president's order.

He said hundreds of acres of land was so far retaken from its seizers and hundreds of those involved in the illegal practice were arrested. Those arrested are including both high level and low level grabbers.

This commission performs its operations under the supervision of the governor and it yielded positive results, he said.

Security forces' achievements The provincial police headquarters says it has abed dozens of people in connection with land-grab and recovering thousands of acres of usurped land during the past two years.

Deputy police chief Abdul Jamil Tatamdarayee said they had been able to prevent attempts at grabbing more land in addition to launching campaigns after the president's orders.

Police spokesman Hazrat Hussain Mashriqiwal said police had been trying for prevention of land-grab in Nangarhar I compliance with orders from the central

government.

He said 333 land-grabbers had been detained and 3,337 acres of government land recovered so far. However, Mashriqiwal did not provide details about the prosecution of major land-grabbers.

Judicial organs The justice department confirmed receiving 200 cases of land-grab. Of the 233 accused, only 18 were referred to the justice department.

Nasir Ahmad Khamosh, in charge of government's real estate section at the Justice Department, verified the registration of 200 land-grab cases in the past two years. But police handed over only 18 grabbers to the department.

He said they had registered cases involving 1,200 acres of government land so far while investigations were underway into the remaining cases. Fifteen of the cases have been finalised and referred to court.

The Nangarhar Appellate Court, meanwhile, acknowledged receiving 107 cases, with 15 land-grabbers sentenced from two months to one year in jail terms.

Abdul Wali Qazizada, the appellate court head, told Pajhwok they had received 17 criminal land-grab cases in the solar year 1395. Thirteen accused were awarded jail terms from two months to one year. The rest of cases were rejected for lack of evidence. Qazizada said 50 cases referred to the court were also decided during the year. Eight land-grab cases and 32 other legal cases were disposed of during the current (1396) solar year.

However, he explained they had not received any complaints so far against the individuals involved in grabbing more than one acre of land. (Pajhwok)

### (17) Rebels Set ...

truck on fire and partially damaged two other vehicles and took hostage their drivers."

Husaini said the Taliban had torched a vehicle carrying goods for local shops in Chichal Kutal area of Dara-i-Suf Paean district two days ago.

A year back, the rebel group torched nine coal trucks in the same area for not paying tax to the militants, he recalled.

A resident of Dara-i-Suf Bala district, who wished to go unnamed, said Taliban militants had previously warned truck drivers who transferred coal to pay them tax otherwise they would torch their vehicles.

The Taliban have not yet commented on the incident.

The coalmine in Dara-i-Suf Bala district is one of the biggest revenue source for the government. The government collected 2.5 billion afghanis in tax from the mine last year. (Pajhwok)

### (18) Have Seen ...

raped, beat and tortured her to the extent that she was left with no option but to find shelter at a safe house, said Nelab.

Since adulthood, she has seen nothing but pain, violence, slavery and sorrow .Nelab has been living in Kabul in a safe house for the past one year. She has given birth to the baby girl of her deceiving husband, at the facility.

"If there had been no safe house for women like me, I would have to live on the road in the current circumstances," she said, holding a two-month-old baby on her lap. She started sharing her woeful story.

"We are four sisters and have as many brothers. My father is a prayer leader, imam. We had no contact with our relatives. My father used to beat our mother daily in front of us. Knife cuts are still visible on my mother's body. (Pajhwok)

### (19) Life Paralyzed ...

the highway north of the city over the past few months.

He said the highway connected Gardez with a number of districts, but the border police were allowing no one to travel on it.

Wali told Pajhwok Afghan News the closure of Badpakh road had compelled commuters to divert to uneven routes. He said passengers had been looted many times on the dust roads.

"The road which was complexly closed against people seven months ago is still closed. Travelling on the dust routes is not an easy task, we have many times visited the officials to reopen the road, but in vain."

Ali Ahmad, who lives near the governor's house in Samadkhel village, said he had to travel many extra miles reaching home because the shortest road had been closed.

Ahmad said the governor's house had closed the general road at two locations, with no end to the blockade insight.

"We are facing a great inconvenience due to closure of roads in the city. You cannot take your patient to hospital and if you take an alternate route, there is danger. What should we do..."

Ahmad said if the government authorities did not protect themselves, how could they protect citizens?

A member of the provincial council, Taj Mohammad Mangal, said the closure of roads by government authorities had invented a lot of problems for local residents. (Pajhwok)